## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/PLC:JMARTIN
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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PASS TO RICHARD J. BLOOMFIELD

FOLLOWING REPEAT BOGOTA 10142 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MEDELLIN CALI DATED 16 NOV 74 QUOTE
C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 10142

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR OAS CO

SUBJECT FONMIN LIEVANO COMMENTS ON QUITO CONFERENCE

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN RECENT STATEMENTS FONMIN LIEVANO HAS ASSUMED A SOMEWHAT MORE EVEN TEMPERED POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE OUTCOME OF THE QUITO CONFERENCE, THE POSITION OF TH US AT QUITO AND THE OAS.HE INDICATED NEW FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS MAY BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. END SUMMARY.

1) LIEVANO IN A PRESS CONFERENCEON NOV 15
TERMED THE QUITO CONFERENCE A "NOTEWORTHY STEP AHEAD
IN ESTABLISHING BEFORE THE CONTINENT THAT THERE IS NO
SOLID BASIS FOR MAINTAINING SACTIONS AGAINST CUBA".
MAINTAINING THAT THE QUITO CONFERENCE WAS NOT A FAILURE
LIEVANO EXPLAINED THAT ONE O F THE MORE IMPORTANT
ASPECTS WHICH NEEDED TO BE CLARIFIED AND WHICH WAS
IN EFFECT CLARIFIED, WAS THE POSITION OF THE MAJORITY
OF THE COUNTRIES OF AMERICAN REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF CUBAN
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SACNTIONS. UNTIL 3 OR 4 YEARS AGO IT WAS VERY EASY TO

OBTAIN A MAJORITY FOR THE SANCTIONS AND FURTHERMORE THESE MAJORITIES WERE ABTAINED WITH PROUD AND FRANK VOTES AGAINST RAISING THE SANCTIONS. IN THIS CONFERENCE THE PROFOUND CHANGEWITH RESPECT TO CUBA HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED. T ERE WAS A MAJORITY IN FAVOR OF LIFTING THE SANCTIONS AND A NUMBER OF VOTES, NO LONGER PROUD AS ON OTHER OCASSIONS, THATOPPOSED THE LIFTING OF SACTIONS AND NOW DISGUISED AS VOTES OF ABSTENTION. I BELIEVE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE FORMALLY ESTABLISHED AT THIS CONFERENCE THAT THE CLEAR MAJORITY OF LATIN AMERICAN STATES DO NOT SUPPORT THE MAINTENANCEOF SANCTIONS. THIS IS A SITUATION WHICH EVIDENTLY IS GOING TO HAVE LOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS".

- 2) ASKED IF COLOMBIA WILL RENEW UNILATERALLY ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA, LIEVANO REPLIED "I CANNOT GIVE YOUT CONCRETE OPINION TON THIS AT THE MOMENT. IT WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A DECISION BY THE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING STUDY OF THE MATTER. BUT AFTER BEING ONE OF THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH PORPOSED THE LIFTING OF THE SANCTIONS THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT NATURALLY HAS NO INTEREST IN MAINTINAING THIS SITUATION INDEFINITELY, WHICH I BELIEVE TO BE VERY IRREGULAR, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE CONFERENCE"
- 3) RERARDING WHETHER THE US WOULD TAKE REPRISALS OVER THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE, LIEVANO REPLIES EMPHATICALLY THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE SO, "FURTHERMORE", HE SAID, "THE CONDUCT OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION IN THIS CASE WAS PRUDENT AND I DOUBT THAT THEY ARE THINKING OF REPRISALS. OF COURSE I REGRET THAT THE POSITION OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION WAS NOT MORE POSITIVE IN THE SENSE OF AWARENESS OF NEW REALITIES IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THAT WITH ITS ABSTENTION A CERTAIN STAGNATION WAS SHOWN IN US POLICY REGARDING LATIN AMERICA, DIFFERENT FROM US POLICY TO OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD".
- 4) AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER, WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN RUMORED IN THE BOGOTA PRESS LEIVANO REPLIED THAT SUCH MEETINGS ARE A NORMAL PART OF COLOMBIAN FOREIGN RELATIONS BUT THAT HE HAD NOT SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THAT MATTER. "OF COURSE, WE MAINTAINED CONTANTT WITH THE AMERICAN DELEGATION CONFIDENTIAL

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IN QUITO AND ALSO WITH TEEMBASSY BEFORE DEPARTING FOR QUITO. COLOMBIA IS CERTAINLY NOT IN A POSITION OF HOSTILITY REGARDING THE US GOVERNMENT AND WE MAY BE ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER IN MANY AREAS WITHIN THE GREATEST HARMONY.

5) THE FONMIN REPLIED TO A QUESTION ABOUT A POSSIBLE TRIP BY HIM TO HAVANA, THAT THE MATTER HAD FIRST TO BE STUDIEDBY THE GOVERNMENT AND WHEN A DECISION WAS

## REACHED HE WOULD MAKE IT KNOWN.

## 6) ASKED WHETHER

THE OAS WAS ABOUT TO DISAPPEAR, TO BE REPLACED BY ANOTHER ORGANIZATION, LIEVANO RESPONDED THAT THE VOTE WAS NOT AN OAS PROBLEM BUT ONE OF THE INTER AMERICAN MUTUAL ASSISTANCE TREATY, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF WHICH THE SACTIONS WERE LAID DOWN". LIEVANO WENT ON TO CRITICIZE THE VOTING FORMULA WHICH REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE TO LIFT THE SANCTIONS.

7) IN ANOTHER STATEMENT FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ, LIECANO SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE QUITO CON-FERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT.WE ARE GOING TO STUDY AND WE ARE EXPECTING NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CONTINENT BECAUSE DESPITE WHAT PEOPLE BELIEVE THINGS DID NOT END AS THEY APPEARED TO HAVE ENDED IN QUITO. THE EFFECTS WILL BEGIN TO BE SEEN AND IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS WE WILL HAVE SOME ANNOUNCE-MENTS TO MAKE OVER THE POLICY THAT WE ARE GOING TO ADOPT. 8) COMMENT: FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO HAS EVIDENTLY CALMED DOWN SOMEWHAT SSINCE HIS RETURN FROM OUITO AND IS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN INTERPRETING THE OUTCOME OF TH CONFERENCE IN THE MOST FAVORABLE LIGHT, IT WOULD APPEAR INCREASINGLY LIKELY THAT COLOMBIAN WILL CONTINUE ITS CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE OAS. ANY FINAL DECISION REGARDING THE NATURE OF COLOMBIAN/CUB AN RELATIONS WILL BE MADE BY PRESIDENT LOPEZ FOLLOWING A DISPASSIONATE ANALYSIS OF THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FACTORS INVOLVED. END COMMENT. WHITE

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To: SANTIAGO

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